

## Message Text

SECRET

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45

ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 AEC-11 AF-10 ARA-11

CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-11 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NASA-04

NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OIC-04 OST-04 PA-03 PRS-01

RSC-01 GAC-01 SCI-06 SS-14 MBFR-03 USIA-12 SAJ-01

INRE-00 RSR-01 /198 W

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P R 211808 Z MAR 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8399

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T GENEVA 1267

DISTO

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM - UK

SUBJECT: CCD: UK VIEWS ON CW

1. SUMMARY: IN MARCH 21 CALL ON AMB MARTIN ( US REP),  
UK FOREIGN OFFICE DISARMAMENT DIVISION CHIEF STRESSED  
THAT IF AND WHEN USG ADVANCED A PARTIAL CW MEASURE, HMG  
WOULD NEED SOME TIME TO BRING ALL INTERESTED BRITISH  
PARTIES INTO LINE FOR GETTING INITIATIVE THROUGH NATO.  
BRITISH FELT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE IN THIS CONNECTION TO  
HAVE INTELLIGENCE REASSESSMENT REGARDING SOVIET CW  
CAPABILITIES AND TO EXPLORE MORE FULLY SOVIET POSITION  
ON VERIFICATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE CW BAN. END SUMMARY

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2. DAVID SUMMERHAYES ( UK FOREIGN OFFICE DISARMAMENT DIV CHIEF) CALLED ON AMB MARTIN ( US) MARCH 21 AND STRESSED THAT IF AND WHEN USG REACHES DECISION TO ADVANCE CW INITIATIVE, HMG WILL NEED SOME TIME TO BRING ALL OF ITS INTERESTED PARTIES " MARCHING IN SAME DIRECTION" ON A US PROPOSAL IN ORDER TO GET IT THROUGH NATO. ( SUMMERHAYES INDICATED UK EMBASSY HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED MAKE SAME POINT TO US IN WASHINGTON.) HE EXPLAINED THAT BRITISH HAVE SOME RESERVATIONS REGARDING A PARTIAL CW INITIATIVE, THOUGH THESE MAY BE RESOLVED IN TIME -- " IT WAS AN OPEN QUESTION."

3. SUMMERHAYES STATED THAT UK CONSIDERATION OF CW PROBLEM HAD BEEN HELD BACK BY DISPARITIES IN WESTERN INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES OF SOVIET CW CAPABILITIES. HE SAID BRITISH MILITARY WERE INCLINED TOWARDS GRIM ASSESSMENT OF THESE WHEREAS HE HIMSELF WAS LESS TROUBLED. BRITISH FELT THAT AN INTELLIGENCE REASSESSMENT NOW WOULD BE TIMELY. SUMMERHAYES STATED THAT FROM UK POLITICAL AND PARLIAMENTARY VIEW BRITISH STRONGLY FELT IT WOULD ALSO BE DESIRABLE FOR CCD TO EXPLORE MORE FULLY THE SOVIET POSITION ON VERIFICATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE CW BAN. HE ASKED OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE NEGOTIABILITY OF A PARTIAL APPROACH AMONG THE NON- ALIGNED AT THE CCD AND AT THE FIRST COMMITTEE.

4. MARTIN EMPHASIZED THAT HE COULD NOT PREDICT WHAT USG DECISION ON CW WOULD BE BUT OBSERVED THAT WHILE NON- ALIGNED WOULD INITIALLY CRITICIZE ANY US PARTIAL APPROACH WE BELIEVE THEY WILL THEN BE WILLING TO SIT DOWN AND NEGOTIATE ON THAT BASIS. NUMBER OF NON- ALIGNED REPS HAD EVEN SAID AS MUCH TO US EXPLICITLY.

5. MARTIN ASSURED SUMMERHAYES THAT WE HOPE THAT ALLIED CONSIDERATION OF ANY US INITIATIVE WOULD BE EXPEDITIOUS. HE EMPHASIZED THAT ANY US DECISION TO ADVANCE A CW MEASURE WOULD BE BASED ON PROMOTION OF US AND NATO SECURITY INTERESTS. HE UNDERLINED THE RESTRAINTS WE WERE NOW UNDER WITH REGARD TO ANY EXPANSION OF OUR CW CAPABILITY AND THAT IT WAS IN OUR COMMON WESTERN INTERESTS TO PUT CONSTRAINTS ON SOVIETS. RIMESTAD

SECRET

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* SECRET

## Message Attributes

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**Review Authority:** smithrj  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 JUL 2001  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PARM, UK  
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SECSTATE WASHDC INFO LONDON  
MOSCOW  
MULTIPLE  
OTTAWA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

